

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** on May 22, 1819, the SS Savannah departed Savannah, Georgia, en route to Liverpool, England, on the first trans-Atlantic voyage by steam, marking the beginning of the steamship age in maritime history and laying the foundation for the United States Merchant Marine; and

**WHEREAS,** men and women from every state who are serving in America's Merchant Marine are honored on this day each year along with the many seamen who lost their lives in World War II and those who served with such courage and dedication in every conflict throughout our country's history; and

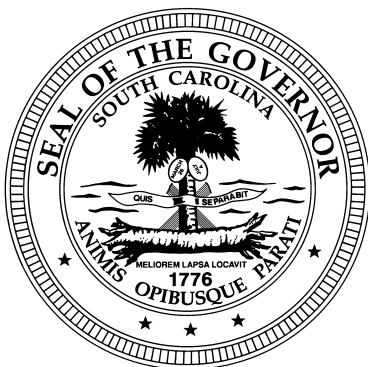
**WHEREAS,** South Carolina's maritime ports contribute significantly to the strength and economic growth of the Palmetto State; and

**WHEREAS,** today, our merchant fleet binds us in peaceful commerce with increasingly interdependent nations around the globe.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2006, as

### MARITIME DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor the men and women of the United States Merchant Marine for their continued support of our state and nation during times of peace and intervals of war.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

**MARK SANFORD**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**